



NIRB File No.: 11MN034

August 1, 2014

To: Meliadine Gold Distribution List

Sent via email

Re: Draft Agenda for the upcoming Final Hearing for the NIRB's Review of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.'s Meliadine Gold Project Proposal

Dear Parties,

On May 30, 2014 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) provided formal notice that the Final Hearing for its Review of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM or the Proponent) proposed Meliadine Gold Project (NIRB File No. 11MN034) would be held in Rankin Inlet August 21-27, 2014. The Final Hearing will provide a public forum for discussion of technical issues that have been identified and which remain unresolved, as well as issues for which there is public concern and other matters considered relevant to the NIRB's assessment of the Meliadine Gold project proposal. The NIRB anticipates that discussions during the Final Hearing will result in an identification of issues which the Board will address in its Final Report to the Minister for this assessment.

The NIRB has attached a Draft Hearing Agenda for the information of parties (see **Appendix A**), and hereby invites comments from interested parties regarding the ordering of specific topics and appearance of intervenors, as well as the time currently allotted to agenda items, including intervenor's presentations. Comments to the agenda will be accepted until **5:00 p.m. MT Friday August 8, 2014**. Parties are invited to submit comments via email to info@nirb.ca or by fax to (867) 983-2594.

FINAL HEARING: AUGUST 21-27, 2014

NOTE: All attendees at the Final Hearing are advised that any times given in the attached Draft Final Hearing Agenda are approximate and the order of presenters and time given for presentations are subject to change at the Moderator's discretion during the Hearing. Consequently, the participants are advised to ensure their travel and other logistical arrangements are sufficiently flexible to accommodate modifications to the proposed timing and order of presenters throughout the Final Hearing.

Technical Sessions: August 21, 22, 23, 2014

The objective of the ‘technical sessions’ portion of the agenda is to facilitate presentations and questioning by technical experts regarding the conclusions of the Proponent’s Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), with a focus on the unresolved issues and concerns raised within parties’ final written submissions to the NIRB. Prior to the technical presentations by Intervenor, the Proponent is scheduled to present an overview of its project proposal, followed by a presentation of the conclusions regarding potential impacts and required mitigation identified in its FEIS, as well as its responses to parties’ technical review comments. The NIRB recommends that these presentations be organized by thematic FEIS volume to assist with the tracking of issues throughout. Intervenor and the Board Members will be permitted to ask questions at suitable points throughout this portion of the agenda.

Intervenor participating during the technical session portion of the agenda are advised that each Intervenor with status at the Hearing will be granted 20 minutes with which to present evidence to the Board. Additional time will be allotted for the questioning of each Intervenor at the conclusion of each presentation. Intervenor are requested to also structure their presentations to follow the thematic volumes of the FEIS, providing a brief synopsis of significant issues resolved through the preceding technical review and identification of those issues remaining unresolved (with accompanying recommendations) as raised within their final written submissions to the NIRB. The Board recognizes that certain Intervenor may require additional time to present evidence during the Hearing owing to the number of outstanding issues and/or complexities regarding areas of jurisdiction and expertise. As such, the Board requests that any Intervenor requiring additional time to present evidence to the Board advise the NIRB as soon as possible at info@nirb.ca, and no later than **Friday August 8, 2014**.

With respect to the format for technical presentations, the NIRB requests that parties structure their presentations as follows:

1. Provide a brief description of Intervenor mandate and relevant legislation, policies, guidelines, etc.;
2. Address the major project components:
 - a. All-Weather Access Road
 - b. Meliadine Mine sites
 - c. Rankin Inlet facilities and shipping;
3. Present issues in a manner that parallels parties’ final written submissions and is in keeping with the intent and general format of the NIRB’s February 2011 EIS Guidelines (noting that where no issue exists, that specific component and/or Guideline need not be included in the presentation):
 - a. Baseline
 - b. Methodologies
 - c. Ecosystemic & Socio-Economic Effects
 - d. Monitoring & Mitigation;
4. Discuss specific issues that pertain to the Intervenor; and
5. Provide a listing of summary recommendations for the Board’s consideration.

Following each technical presentation, the Proponent, other Intervenor, and the NIRB will be given an opportunity to question and cross-examine the presenter(s) and the evidence provided.

Parties are advised to ensure that personnel with the necessary expertise to answer any questions arising during the technical sessions are readily available.

Community Roundtable Sessions: August 25-27, 2014

Given the importance placed on ensuring public input for the Board's Review process, the NIRB has invited five (5) representatives from each of the seven (7) potentially affected communities to participate in the Community Roundtable Session portion of the Final Hearing. The Proponent and Intervenor will be expected to also deliver plain language summary presentations to the Board during the Community Roundtable Session, with a directed focus on associating comments and concerns with major project components rather than the thematic volumes of the FEIS. Intervenor are advised to also highlight the mandate and jurisdiction of their respective organization or agency, to assist community representatives and the general public with accurately directing their questions and comments to the appropriate party.

During the Community Roundtable Session, the Proponent is expected to deliver a series of summary presentations specific to each major project component, highlighting the conclusions regarding potential impacts and required mitigation identified in its FEIS. Each of these presentations should be no longer than 25 minutes in length. Following each presentation, community members (including members of the general public in attendance) will have an opportunity to question the Proponent and other Intervenor based on the information and evidence presented. As indicated in its Preliminary Hearing Conference Decision, **the Board requires that each of the following Intervenor ensure sufficient technical expertise is available for not only the technical sessions of the Final Hearing but also the community roundtable portions of the Final Hearing:**

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| ▪ Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. | ▪ Environment Canada |
| ▪ Kivalliq Inuit Association | ▪ Fisheries and Oceans Canada |
| ▪ Government of Nunavut | ▪ Natural Resources Canada |
| ▪ Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada | ▪ Transport Canada |

FINAL HEARING LOGISTICS

Hearing Agenda & Attendance

The NIRB will consider comments and suggested revisions to the Draft Agenda prior to finalizing the Hearing Agenda. The finalized Agenda will be provided for the information of all parties on or before **Friday August 15, 2014**.

The NIRB requests that parties planning to attend the upcoming Final Hearing provide our office with an indication of the number of representatives to be in attendance, including their names, positions and respective area(s) of expertise or authority. Parties are advised that each intervenor will be limited to one (1) seat at the table during the technical session of the Final Hearing for the purposes of questioning other intervenors and the Proponent. A separate table will be provided for individuals presenting evidence to the Board during technical presentations. Likewise,

parties will be asked to be seated in the audience during the community roundtable sessions and agencies addressing questions from the public will be requested to move forward to speak at a microphone as required.

Presentations

Parties are advised that all presentation materials must be provided in English and Inuktitut, and French if possible. Parties are further reminded that presentations will serve as formal exhibits to the Hearing proceedings, and that filing of additional materials at the Final Hearing will be undertaken on an as-needed basis. The NIRB asks that all parties provide sufficient copies of all presentation materials at the Hearing, including translated versions, noting that up to 150 copies each of English and Inuktitut may be required.

The NIRB requests that all parties submit technical and summary presentations for the upcoming Hearing electronically in Microsoft PowerPoint format via email to info@nirb.ca, on or before **Friday August 15, 2014**. We appreciate the efforts of parties to provide presentation materials as requested, as the NIRB requires these materials in order to prepare comprehensive information packages for community roundtable participants in advance of the Hearing.

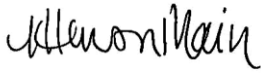
Summary of Important Dates

Friday August 8	Comments regarding Agenda, timing, format of presentations to the NIRB
Friday August 15	Presentations (English, Inuktitut, French) provided electronically to the NIRB
	Parties provide NIRB with confirmation of representative attendance at the Hearing
	NIRB to release final Hearing Agenda

The NIRB appreciates the efforts of all parties in preparation for the upcoming Final Hearing and looks forward to continuing constructive discussions with all parties at the Final Hearing for the Review of the Meliadine Gold project proposal.

Should you have any questions or require clarification regarding the next steps in the Board's Review of the Meliadine Project, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, by telephone at (867) 983-4619 or kgillard@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,



Amanda Hanson Main
Director, Technical Services
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Stéphane Robert, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
Larry Connell, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

Attached: Appendix A: Draft Meliadine Final Hearing Agenda

APPENDIX A: DRAFT MELIADINE FINAL HEARING AGENDA

NIRB File No.: 11MN034 – Meliadine Gold project proposal

Proponent: Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. (AEM)

Location: Community Hall, Rankin Inlet

Dates: August 21-27, 2014

Times: **All times given are approximate. The order of presenters and time given for presentations are subject to change at the Chairperson's discretion during the Hearing:**

Technical Sessions: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Community Roundtable Sessions: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Evening Sessions: 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Thursday August 21, 2014 – Day 1 (includes scheduled evening session)

General Opening

1. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson with introductions, overview of procedural history, structure of proceedings, etc. (30 minutes)
2. Identification of motions or objections

Technical session

3. Swearing in/affirmation of Proponent's witnesses and marking of exhibits
4. Presentations by the Proponent - Note: time for questions by Board Members and Intervenor will be provided following each presentation:
 - a. Introduction & Overview (30 minutes)
 - b. Atmospheric Environment (40 minutes)
 - c. Terrestrial Environment (80 minutes)
 - d. Marine Environment (40 minutes)
 - e. Socio-Economics and Human Health (60 minutes)
5. Presentations from registered Intervenor – Note: witnesses appearing on behalf of registered Intervenor will be sworn in/affirmed and exhibits will be marked in advance of testimony being given. Following each Intervenor's presentation there will be time for questions by Board Members, other Intervenor and the Proponent. Each Intervenor has been allotted a maximum of 20 minutes for their presentations. However, Intervenor requiring additional time to present are advised to contact the NIRB as soon as possible to discuss their time requirements:
 - a. Kivalliq Inuit Association

- b. Government of Nunavut
 - c. Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
6. Close of Day 1

Friday August 22, 2014 – Day 2

Technical session (Continued from Day 1)

- 7. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson
- 8. Presentations from registered Intervenorors – Note: witnesses appearing on behalf of registered Intervenorors will be sworn in/affirmed and exhibits will be marked in advance of testimony being given. Following each Intervenor's presentation there will be time for questions by Board Members, other Intervenorors and the Proponent. Each Intervenor has been allotted a maximum of 20 minutes for their presentations. However, Intervenorors requiring additional time to present are advised to contact the NIRB as soon as possible to discuss their time requirements:
 - d. Environment Canada
 - e. Fisheries and Oceans Canada
 - f. Natural Resources Canada
 - g. Transport Canada
 - h. Aqiggiq Hunters and Trappers Organization
 - i. Kangiqliniq Hunters and Trappers Organization
 - j. Kivalliq Wildlife Board
- 9. Close of Day 2

Saturday August 23, 2014 – Day 3

Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. Site Visit at proposed Meliadine Gold Project

- 10. Registered participants to take part via bus tours departing from the Rankin Inlet Community Hall at 8:00 am, 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. Each tour to involve stops and explanations from AEM personnel at the following locations:
 - Along the all-weather access road at the Meliadine Bridge;
 - At the intersection of the existing all-weather access road and the proposed Discovery Road;
 - Near the existing portal facility;
 - Near the existing waste dump; and,

- At the existing exploration camp.

Monday August 25, 2014 – Day 4 (includes scheduled evening session)

Community Roundtable Session

11. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson
12. Presentation by the Proponent – Introduction and Overview (*20 minutes*)
13. Summary presentation by the Proponent – **All-Weather Access Road** (*25 minutes*)
14. Questioning of the Proponent and Intervenor by community representatives
15. Presentations by members of the public who have advised the Chairperson that they wish to speak on this topic
16. Summary presentation by the Proponent – **Meliadine Mine sites** (*25 minutes*)
17. Questioning of the Proponent and Intervenor by community representatives
18. Presentations by members of the public who have advised the Chairperson that they wish to speak on this topic
19. Summary presentation by the Proponent – **Rankin Inlet facilities and marine shipping** (*25 minutes*)
20. Questioning of the Proponent and Intervenor by community representatives
21. Presentations by members of the public who have advised the Chairperson that they wish to speak on this topic
22. Presentations by Intervenor. Note: following each Intervenor's presentation there will be time for questions by community representatives and members of the public. Each Intervenor has been allotted 15-20 minutes for their presentations, however Intervenor requiring additional time to present are advised to contact the NIRB as soon as possible to discuss their time requirements:
 - a. Kivalliq Inuit Association
 - b. Government of Nunavut
 - c. Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
23. Close of Day 4

Tuesday August 26, 2014 – Day 5

General Opening

24. Opening Remarks by the Chairperson

Community Roundtable Session

25. Questioning of the Proponent by community members – *continued*
26. Presentations by Intervenors – *continued*. Note: following each Intervenor's presentation there will be time for questions by community representatives and members of the public. Each Intervenor has been allotted 15-20 minutes for their presentations, however Intervenors requiring additional time to present are advised to contact the NIRB as soon as possible to discuss their time requirements:
 - d. Environment Canada
 - e. Fisheries and Oceans Canada
 - f. Natural Resources Canada
 - g. Transport Canada
 - h. Aqiggiq Hunters and Trappers Organization
 - i. Kangiqliniq Hunters and Trappers Organization
 - j. Kivalliq Wildlife Board
27. Questioning of the Proponent or Intervenors by community members
28. Presentations by members of the public who have advised the Chairperson that they wish to speak on this topic
29. Close of Day 5

Wednesday August 27, 2014 – Day 6 (morning session)

30. Opening Remarks by Chairperson
31. Closing Remarks (2 hours)
32. Close of Day 5 - Note: While the agenda has been set to close the Hearing at the end of the morning session on Day 6, parties are advised that the agenda may be subject to change and that the Hearing may extend into the afternoon and/or evening if required.